

## Narrative arc

*The person with the highest house number in your group should read these instructions aloud.*

Our group's job is to create a poster, showing the narrative arc of *Beowulf*. We need to do the following:

1. Draw a narrative arc on the poster (there is an example below). It must include the following labels: Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action and Resolution. It should be BIG, taking up the whole poster.
2. We have to cut out the grey boxes which represent plot events.
3. We should discuss and decide where we think each of the plot events should be placed on the narrative arc.
4. We can then glue the grey boxes onto our poster.
5. We should cut out the white boxes which are quotations from *Beowulf*.
6. We have to discuss and decide which of the plot events matches each quotation.
7. Then we can glue on the quotations next to the corresponding grey box.
8. We need to draw a small illustration for each grey box.

### Extension:

9. There is a spare grey box and a spare quotation box. We should think of another important point in the poem and decide where it fits on the narrative arc.

We will all have jobs. They are:

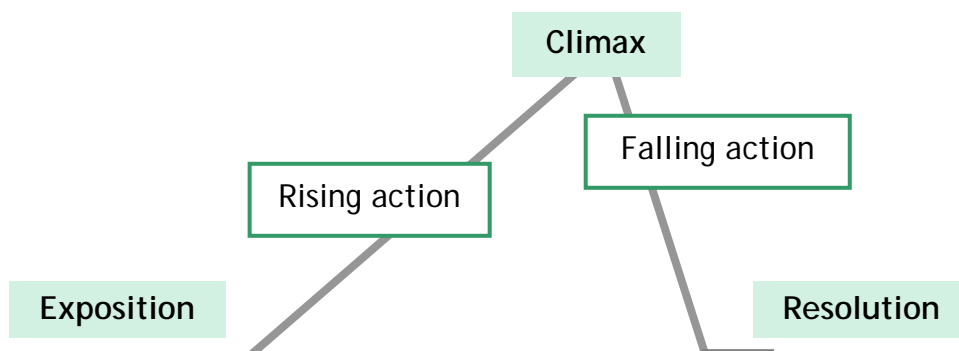
**The Marker Master:** This person will draw and label the arc and then be in charge of gluing.

**Mr/Ms. Slash:** They will be in charge of cutting out the help cards squares.

**Artist extraordinaire:** This person will do the pencil illustrations to go along with each grey box on the poster.

**Coach:** This person will gently encourage others and refer back to these instructions if the group is confused.

Here is a generic narrative arc to get us started:



**Narrative arc**

Beowulf rips  
Grendel's arm  
off.

Grendel attacks  
Herot, taking  
away thirty  
men.

Beowulf hears  
what is  
happening  
and comes to  
Denmark to  
help.

They follow  
Grendel's blood  
trail, realise  
he's dead and  
celebrate.

Herot is built  
and attracts the  
notice of the  
Monster,  
Grendel.

**Narrative arc**

'That most beautiful of dwellings, built as he'd wanted ... A powerful monster growled in pain ... As day after day the music range loud in the hall.'

'Grendel went up to Herot ... snatched up thirty men ... The blood dripping behind him.'

'In his far off home Beowulf heard ... How Grendel filled nights with horror.'

'Beowulf, a prince of the Geats, had killed Grendel ... hanging high from the rafters ... was the monster's arm, claw and shoulder and all.'

'They ... went tracing his bloody footprints ... The old and the young rejoiced.'